

DIAA Board of Directors' Special Meeting
Thursday, September 24, 2020 – 9:00 A.M.
Minutes

<u>Names</u>		<u>Names</u>	
Dr. Bradley Layfield - Chairperson	P	Jeremy Jeanne	L
Dr. Kathleen Andrus	A	Ted Laws	P
Dr. Bradley Bley	P	Chuck Little	A
Mike Breeding	P	Douglas Thompson	P
Robert Cilento	P	Stan Waterman	P
Dr. Matthew Donovan	P	Robert Watson	P
Dr. Evelyn Edney	P	Michael Rodriguez –DOE Associate Secretary	L
Vetra Evans-Gunter	P	Donna Polk – DIAA Executive Director	P
Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald	L	Laura Makransky – Deputy Attorney General	P
Bruce Harris	P	Stephanie Mark-DIAA Coordinator	P
Mike Hart	P	Amoscita Rodriguez-DIAA Secretary	P
P= Present A = Absent L= Late arrival			

I. Opening

- A. Call to Order – Dr. Layfield called the meeting to order at 9:00 am
- B. Roll Call – Please see above
- C. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Cilento made a motion to approve the agenda and the motion was seconded by Mr. Laws. The motion carried with a unanimous vote of 12 Yes [Bley, Breeding, Cilento, Donovan, Edney, Evans-Gunter, Harris, Hart, Laws, Thompson, Waterman, and Watson] and 0 No.

- D. Approval of Minutes of DIAA July 23, 2020 Board Meeting

Mr. Laws made a motion to approve the Minutes of DIAA July 23, 2020 Board Meeting and the motion was seconded by Mr. Hart. The motion carried with a vote 11 Yes [Bley, Cilento, Donovan, Edney, Evans-Gunter, Harris, Hart, Laws, Thompson, Waterman, and Watson] and 0 No; 1 abstention (Mr. Breeding).

- E. Approval of Minutes of DIAA July 23, 2020 Executive Session Meetings

Mr. Hart made a motion to approve the minutes of DIAA July 23, 2020 Executive Session Meetings, and the motion was seconded by Mr. Cilento. The motion carried with a vote 11 Yes [Bley, Cilento, Donovan, Edney, Evans-Gunter, Harris, Hart, Laws, Thompson, Waterman, and Watson] and 0 No; 1 abstention (Mr. Breeding).

- F. Approval of Minutes of DIAA August 6, 2020 Board Meeting.

Mr. Laws made a motion to approve the minutes for DIAA August 6, 2020 Board Meeting, the motion was seconded by Mr. Hart. The motion carried with a unanimous vote 12 Yes [Bley, Breeding, Cilento, Donovan, Edney, Evans-Gunter, Harris, Hart, Laws, Thompson, Waterman, and Watson] and 0 no.

II. Coronavirus COVID-19 Impact

- A. Emergency Regulation 1010 Interscholastic Athletics During COVID-19 Pandemic
 - i. DIOC to Present Officials Operations/Concerns during COVID-19

Walter Connor, Wendy Kite and Greg Bulger representatives of DIOS shared unanimous concerns of all 17 sports associations such as:

- There are many moving parts involved in sporting events including on field play, fans/audience, sidelines, sanitization of equipment these issues raise the need for a “COVID” Coordinator
 - Athletic Directors already have multiple responsibilities and can not fulfill all of the requirements (result of COVID-19)
 - The football plan includes the designation of and usage of a COVID Coordinator. This person should not be a manager nor a child.
 - Nothing in NFHS Rules specifically provides guidance about masks
 - DIOC need guidance from DIAA regarding masks and there needs to be consistency overall in established procedures and policies.

Dr. Fitzgerald joined the meeting at 10:01 am.

Coach Wilson and Dr. Bley discussed the various options of masks for football including internal face masks and external shields. When asked what would be recommended to a parent Coach Wilson recommended the Shut Shield and visor. DPH recommends double layer/2-ply face covering. Dr. Layfield pointed out there is a difference between recommendation and mandate.

Dr. Layfield initiated a break at 10:40 am. The meeting reconvened at 10:54 am

- B. Sports Seasons Consideration during the Academic Year 2020-21
 - i. Football Sport Plan

Dr. Layfield and the Board completed a page by page review of the DIFCA Football Plan and recommended the following changes:

- Page 3 Remove
- Page 4 Remove “double layer gator”
- Page 7 Keep 20 minutes as Half Time length
- Page 8 Eliminate “small groups 15 or less”; change “mask” to face covering
- Page 9 Change 3 weeks to 25 days-change phase to stage- to match 1010 Regs-7/6-9/27 instead of Phase 1
- Page 10 Put 9/28 instead of Week 1
- Page 11 Strike Group 12-15 and say small groups
- Page 12 Strike Week 4 add 10/19/20 – Allow maximum of two scrimmages
- Page 21 Keep Half Time at 20 minutes
- Page 22 Post game meeting for no more than 15 minutes
- Page 28 Strike highlighted section

Dr. Bley left the meeting at 11:27 am

Mr. Jeanne made a motion to approve the plan as amended and the motion was seconded by Mr. Watson. The motion carried with a unanimous vote 14 Yes [Breeding, Cilento, Donovan, Edney, Evans-Gunter, Fitzgerald, Harris, Hart, Jeanne, Laws, Thompson, Waterman, and Watson] and 0 No.

DIFCA Plan will be presented to DPH for approval.

III. Ratification of Executive Director's Decision to Grant Interim Waivers++

- A. Request to Waive Regulation 1009 2.4 by St. Elizabeth High School – 2020.9.2*
- B. Request to Waive Regulation 1009 2.4 by St. Elizabeth High School – 2020.9.3*

Mr. Laws made a motion to approve the two interim waivers and the motion was seconded by Ms. Gunter. The motion carried with a vote of 10 Yes [Cilento, Donovan, Edney, Evans-Gunter, Fitzgerald, Harris, Laws, Layfield, Waterman and Watson] and 4 No [Breeding, Hart, Jeanne.and Thompson].

Dr. Layfield initiated a break at 12:35 pm and the meeting reconvened at 12:48 pm.

After the break, Mr. Thompson expressed his concerns about how the Board decided/voted on the Interim Waivers. Dr. Layfield responded that the Board would take his concerns into consideration the next time they have to vote on an Interim Waiver.

IV. Other Items for Discussion Only

A. 1010 Interscholastic Athletics during the COVID-19 Pandemic - Coaching Out of Season

Dr. Layfield stated that because Fall sports were delayed several athletes and interscholastic coaches got involved in private leagues, clubs. Since there was already financial obligations to play in private leagues Coaching Out of Season could continue when Fall sports start. Many member schools are questioning if Coaching Out of Season can be opened up for all sports. May have to consider an amendment to this regulation.

B. 1010 Interscholastic Athletics during the COVID-19 Pandemic – Scrimmages

Dr. Layfield mentioned possibly adding an amendment to section 5.3. Advocating for scrimmages may be in the best interest for students' safety.

C. 1010 Interscholastic Athletics during the COVID-19 Pandemic - DIAA Non-conference Schools Scheduling –

Mr. Hart informed the Board that Salesianum only has 3 games scheduled and other Non-Conference schools have limited games as a result of COVID-19.

Dr. Layfield informed the Board all of these items will be further discussed as action items at the 10/8/20 Board meeting.

Other items for discussion:

Dr. Layfield would like Ms. Polk to present an update from DPH to the Board at the next meeting. Dr. Layfield also asked can face coverings be homemade or does it have to be commercially manufactured?

Ms. Polk read the DPH requirements for schools to submit facility and safety plans.

Mr. Thompson asked about the status of action on Transfer Rules. Dr. Donovan mentioned that the Rules and Regulations have begun research and discussion, but requires more time to review.

The November Board Meeting will be moved to 11/5/20 to get permanent regulations submitted to State Board by the 11/15/20 deadline.

Mr. Rodriguez suggested that the Board consider appointing a COVID Liaison or committee to deal with upcoming sports issues.

Mr. Hart shared that DAAD has some concerns (i.e. lack of communication, etc) with DIAA. Ms. Polk mentioned that DIAA/DAAD normally would have a follow-up meeting after the Board of Directors Meeting, but they have not had this meeting since August.

Dr. Fitzgerald questioned why insurance was not an agenda item at this meeting.

V. Public Comment

Kelly Callahan – Why was football provided an extensive amount of much time at today’s meeting when other sports, like volleyball also need consideration and guidance

VI. Adjournment

Mr. Cilento made a motion to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded by Dr. Edney. The motion carried unanimously 14 Yes [Breeding, Cilento, Donovan, Edney, Evans-Gunter, Fitzgerald, Harris, Hart, Jeanne, Laws, Thompson, Waterman, and Watson] and 0 No. The meeting was adjourned at 1:59 pm.